GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:426
ANSWERED ON:20.11.2002
DENTAL DISEASES
SURESH CHANDEL

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to rising consumption of chocolate, toffee and soft drinks dental diseases are taking the shape of epidemics among the children and the youth of the country;

(b) if so, the remedial steps being taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether All India Institute of Medical Sciences and Indian Dental Association have also suggested to include dental disease programmes in the National Programme for the Eradication of Diseases; and

(d) if so, the decision taken by the Government on the above suggestion?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) & (b) It is true that due to rising consumption of chocolate, toffee and soft drinks, there is an increase in the incidence of dental diseases.

(c) & (d) The Government have intiated a Pilot Project on National Oral Health Care Programme in 5 States of Delhi, Punjab Maharashtra, Kerala and North Eastern States.The main objective of this programme is to develop a low cost, sustainable and accessible preventive programme and under this the main component is the oral health education of the Community i.e. to generate awareness among the public about the good oral hygiene and to restrict sticky food items and follow healthy practices.